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CLAIMS:

1. A method of modifying the flavour of bright tobacco wherein the tobacco is heated in a closed system in contact with ammonia at a temperature of 80°C to 150°C for a time in excess of 30 minutes.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the tobacco is impregnated with ammonia before being heated.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2 in which the ammonia is in the form of an aqueous solution.

4. A method as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which the temperature is maintained for a time of up to 24 hours.

5. A method as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which after the heating the system is kept closed for a further holding period.

6. A method as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which heating is carried out in a closed vessel and the vessel is vented during the heating to keep the internal pressure substantially constant.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein a substantially atmospheric positive pressure is maintained during the heat treatment.

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Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/rfmj0000